

BOERS' DEFEAT.

Gen. French Drove the Enemy Out of Colesburg and Occupied the Place.

The Boers Were Utterly Surprised, and Finding That Their Retreat Was Threatened Fled in Disorder Northward.

London, Jan. 2.—The success of Gen. French in driving the Boers from Colesburg has shot a welcome ray of light through the gloom of the campaign in South Africa. Everywhere it is commented upon as an example of sound tactics and as an illustration of what may be done when the right methods are employed with the Boers. The government is urged to take the lesson to heart, and to see that no stone is left unturned in the endeavor to get the largest possible forces of cavalry and mounted infantry to the front.

Now that Gen. French has the Boers on the run the hope is expressed that he will give them no rest, but will harass them until they have found their way across the Orange river, which is 12 miles distant. The old wagon route to the Free State traverses Colesburg and crosses the river by a fine bridge 1,300 feet long. It is believed that the Boers retreated toward Norvalspont, further east, and the question is whether Gen. French will be able to secure these two bridges before the Boers destroy them.

One important effect of the success of Gen. French is that it will probably have a deterrent influence upon Dutch disaffection. There is some disposition here to exaggerate the importance of small skirmishes and engagements. It should be borne in mind that Gen. French has only 2,000 men, and so far as the important points of the campaign are concerned the situation is virtually unchanged.

At Modder river the Boers appear to be modifying somewhat their line of defense. Gen. Buller's scouts have discovered a Boer camp established in the vicinity of Springfield, southwest of Colesburg, by a Free State commando. A similar movement has been made at Modder river. A large force of Boers, it is reported, has formed a new laager about 15 miles down the stream at Kamethoek.

The Daily Mail has the following dispatch dated January 1 from Rensburg:

"Yesterday afternoon a big force of cavalry and infantry, with 10 guns, under the personal command of Gen. French, moving by detour, occupied some hills three miles from Colesburg, where the Boers were in strength, confident in the natural aid afforded them by the hills around."

"The enemy's position extended six miles around the entire village. At daybreak our artillery opened the battle. The Boers were taken by surprise, but replied vigorously. An artillery duel was maintained for two hours. Then a Boer Hotchkiss collapsed and was abandoned. We captured it. A Boer big gun was silenced, but this and the other Boer guns were withdrawn to the northward whither we are harassing the Boer retreat by a damaging shell fire."

"Colesburg is in our hands and the few remaining loyalists are jubilant. We have captured many wagons and a considerable quantity of stores."

"Our losses are quite slight, but the Boers must have suffered heavily. They may stop at Achttertang or cross the river altogether at Norval's point, where the bridge is still intact."

Rensburg, Cape Colony, Jan. 2.—Gen. French has completely defeated the Boers and occupied Colesburg.

The British continued to keep the Boers on the move and pressed them closely Saturday and Sunday, giving them no time to make a prolonged stand and when day broke he was within striking distance of the army. Sunday night all the cavalry, artillery and infantry, the latter riding in wagons to increase the general mobility, started upon a night march with the object of turning the Boers' right. The flank operations were successful. The infantry and field batteries immediately made a feint attack upon the Boers' front and while this was proceeding the cavalry and light artillery got completely around the enemy's right flank as arranged. The programme was worked without a hitch. The Boers were utterly surprised and finding their retreat threatened fled in disorder to the northward, leaving Colesburg in Gen. French's hands.

Beef Famine Threatened.
Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 2.—A beef famine threatens the Klondike. Letters from Dawson state that by the end of December there would not be a pound of fresh meat left. Beef was retailing at a dollar a pound early in December, with little to be had. The situation is more serious from the fact that herds of moose and caribou have been very scarce with the settlement of the Yukon, and even the Indians find it difficult to secure themselves fresh meats. Beef shipped over ice can not reach Dawson before March 1.

DISPUTE SETTLED.

Controversy Over Extension of Concessions in China Between England, France and Uncle Sam.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The announcement that the extension of the foreign concessions at Shanghai, China, has been finally approved, brings to a close a diplomatic controversy between Great Britain, the United States and France, which has at times become rather acute, France taking the position at one stage of the negotiations that the American co-operation with the British in opposing the French plan of extension was an unfriendly act toward France. This and other differences have been happily adjusted, according to announcements from China, which are borne out by the information of officials here.

The controversy assumed an international scope when the three colonies at Shanghai—British, French and American—sought to extend their limits. The concessions are just outside of the old native city, and along the river Whang Poo, near the point where it joins the Yang-Tse-Kiang. They are chiefly important because Shanghai is the foremost port of entry for foreign trade in the Chinese empire. The French settlement is nearest the city and fronts on the river. Next comes the British settlement and then the American. The French desire was to erect their settlement so as to take in a large area back of the old city, including five American missionary institutions. The British government opposed this extension quite vigorously.

The British plan of extension was for an "international settlement," running from the rear of the British concession up to the native city. France in turn, protested against this on the ground that she would be entirely surrounded without exit, except by the river, the native city, or over British territory. The United States approved the plan of an international settlement, as the American interests were substantially similar to those of the British, but the American attitude did not include an endorsement of all the contentions made by the British. It was to this course of the American government that France took exception, on the ground that it was an unfriendly act to France. The negotiations, while assuming no outward show of warmth, were carried on with some briskness, Ambassador Cambon, of France, presenting the French side up to a few months ago.

The adjustment finally reached is satisfactory to all parties concerned. The French concession is extended, without including the American missions. The British and American settlements are extended, and to some extent merged in the international settlement, but the British-American settlement does not so envelop the French colony as to place it in a pocket.

The value of these several concessions is considerable, as the population of Shanghai is about 600,000, of which the greater part is in the foreign settlement. Here the foreigners have the right to carry on trade, and control the property and also have their own courts, police and an organized military establishment.

THE HOLIDAY CHIMES.

Thousands Gathered in the Vicinity of Trinity and Other Churches in New York.

New York, Jan. 2.—The usual holiday crowd gathered at Trinity and listened to the chimes. It is estimated that 60,000 people gathered in the streets after the annual custom. Several thousand people also gathered in Broadway and the adjacent streets to hear the chimes at Grace church. A magnificent program of 20 numbers was played at the church by Miss Bertha Thomas.

Thousands also gathered in and around St. Andrew's church, Fifth avenue and 127th street, for the purpose of listening to the splendid new sequin chimes recently installed in that church. Archbishop Corrigan celebrated midnight mass at the Cathedral. The service was the solemn pontifical mass held by papal decree of Leo XIII. in commemoration of the beginning of the last year of the nineteenth century, known to Catholics as the holy year, or year of jubilee.

Professor of Political Economy.
New Haven, Ct., Jan. 2.—The professorship of political economy at Yale made vacant by the advancement of President Hadley, has been offered to Prof. Henry Crosby Emery, Ph. D., professor of political economy and sociology at Bowdoin college for the past two years, and he has accepted. Prof. Emery is a son of Judge L. A. Emery, of the Maine supreme court, and a member of the American and British Economic association.

Surrenders to the Police.

Denver, Col., Jan. 2.—Wyatt Sharp, who escaped last May from the Arkansas penitentiary, where he was serving a 13 year sentence for murder, has surrendered to the police in this city. Sharp killed B. A. Whetstone in a fight at Huntington, Ark., in 1896.

THE FENIANS ACTIVE.

They Are Engaged in Storing Large Quantities of Explosives and Provisions on the Vermont Border.

Burlington, Vt., Jan. 2.—It is reported that the Fenians are engaged in storing large quantities of dynamite, lyddite ammunition and supplies in a few selected repositories in remote districts of Vermont and Maine near the Canadian boundary line. The information comes from persons who claim to have knowledge of the purchase of some of the supplies, and others who learned of their transportation by railroad disguised as groceries. Dynamite and other explosives have been secured in surprisingly large quantities and stored underground on the Vermont border, while quantities of canned meats have been hidden in some large barns of sympathizing farmers on the Maine line near New Hampshire.

It is said that an efficient ambulance corps is being organized under the supervision of a few loyal Irish women, and surgeons who were in the Red Cross work in Cuba. They are also preparing a large number of "first aid" packages for the invading force.

The movement is the work of the Irish element of the larger cities, but it is a fact that a large and important work is being done among the farmers of the border states. A schedule is being arranged of farmers who can furnish wagons and horses and oxen for transportation purposes, as this is regarded as a most important detail. A careful study is being made of the small railroad branches in northern New England, and places are being located where the road could be captured by a very small force.

LEO NAMES HIS SUCCESSOR.

The Pontiff Favors Girolamo Maria Gotti, the Famous Genoese Monk.

Rome, Jan. 2.—It is asserted that the pope, after the recent ceremony of opening the holy door at St. Peter's cathedral, addressed his intimate entourage, and said: "I thank Divine Providence for granting me the grace of being able to celebrate this great function, and I wish for my successor grandeur and a long reign to the greater glory of God."

"My successor will be young, as compared with my own age, and will have time to see many glories of the papacy and the church."

Later Leo clearly designated Cardinal Girolamo Maria Gotti, prefect of the congregation of Indulgences and Sacred Relics, as his successor.

Cardinal Gotti, the famous Genoese monk, is a man of perfect piety and modesty. Now about 64 years of age, he has always lived the life of an ascetic, and, despite the dignity of a prince of the church, he always sleeps in a cell and on a hard mattress.

A GAS EXPLOSION.

Baptist Church, Dedicated Only a Year Ago, Burned—Two Persons Injured.

Stromberg, Neb., Jan. 2.—Eden Baptist church, which was dedicated only a year ago, was totally destroyed by fire early Monday morning, and two people seriously injured. The fire was caused by an explosion of acetylene gas, with which the church was lighted. The gas generator and the furnace were both located in the basement, and it is supposed escaping gas was ignited by the furnace. New Year's watch meetings were being held, and a large number of people were present, but most of them had just left the building when the explosion occurred. The building was badly wrecked, and what was not destroyed by the explosion was consumed by fire. Mrs. J. L. Johnson and her daughter Pearl were seriously injured.

TELEPHONE IN MOUNTAINS.

Clay County and Other Mountain Districts of Kentucky to Have Communication.

London, Ky., Jan. 2.—The Kentucky Telephone Co. has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state at Frankfort, Ky., and will at once begin the construction of its line from Manchester, Ky., to London. The principal office of this company will be located at Manchester, Clay county, and it will build its lines into Perry, Leslie, Letcher, Jackson and a number of other back counties that are entirely without such accommodations, and which are compelled to send their messages many miles on muleback to reach the nearest telephone or telegraph station.

To Be Executed in March.

Barnstable, Mass., Jan. 2.—Edwin Bay Snow, charged with the murder of James T. Whittemore, at Yarmouth, last October, was arraigned at a special session of the superior court here Monday before Judge Higgins. He retracted his previous plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to be executed March 15.

WIFE OF GEN. AGUINALDO.

She With Her Sisters and 18 Filipinos Have Surrendered to Maj. March.

Manila, Jan. 2.—The first movement of a general south advance occurred Monday morning, when two battalions of the 39th infantry landed and occupied Cabuyao, on the south side of Laguna de Bay. Two Americans were killed and four were wounded. Twenty-four of the enemy's dead were found in one house. One hundred and fifty prisoners and four six-pounder, rapid-fire guns were captured.

The gunboat Laguna de Bay bombarded the town before the disembarkation of the troops from the cascos, which was made under the enemy's shrapnel fire. The enemy evacuated the place before the charging Americans, retreating to Santa Rosa, to which town they are pursued.

Heavy fighting occurred along the road to Santa Rosa, which was occupied by the insurgents, retreating south toward Silang. The Americans burned the country between and around Cabuyao. The gunboat returned to Calamba for reinforcements, and thence came to Manila to fetch ammunition. She recently captured two of the enemy's steam launches, one under the fire of artillery at Calamba, and also four cascos loaded with rice.

Other regiments were mobilizing Monday at San Pedro Macati and Pasig, preparatory to continuing the southern advance.

Sunday's capture of bombs involved the seizure of documents incriminating 1,000 Filipinos, who intended to rise against the Americans. Papers were also found showing a distribution of the city into districts, and a careful assignment of leaders and followers. The precautions taken by the Americans on Saturday, it is now evident, alone prevented an uprising. The provost marshal has requested that two more regiments be detailed for the protection of Manila. Three thousand troops are now actually in the city.

Aguinaldo's wife, sisters and 18 Filipinos have surrendered to Maj. March's battalion, of the 3d infantry, at Bontoc, province of that name. Three Filipino officers also surrendered to Maj. March; and the Filipinos gave up two Spanish and two American prisoners.

MIDNIGHT FIRE.

Flat House in New York Gutted. Loss \$300,000—Child Killed and Other Persons Hurt.

New York, Jan. 2.—Three alarms have been sent in for a fire in a five story flat house, No. 754 First avenue. The flames, which suddenly belched from the building, were discovered by men working in the United Dressing Co.'s plant. They carried out half a dozen women, while many persons got to the street by means of fire escapes. It is feared that the suddenness of the fire has cut off the escape of some of the tenants. On the top floor, 6-months-old Loretta Lennert was found in bed dead. She had been smothered by smoke.

The child's father, Edward, a butcher, was taken to Flower hospital burned about the hands and face. The child's mother, Margaret, was carried down a ladder and taken to Bellevue hospital suffering from shock. Joseph Lennert, brother of the dead child, jumped from a window on one of the lower floors. He was seriously injured and taken to Bellevue hospital. Joseph Kelleher, aged 19, a bell boy, rushed into the building before the arrival of the men. He rescued Tillie Powers, a child, carrying her through the fire and smoke. He was burned about the hands and face. Robert Lowe, aged 18, a companion of Kelleher, who also went into the burning building, was burned about the hands. Pauline Tichman, 63 years old, who boards with the family on the first floor, jumped from her window. Her back was injured.

At 2:35 the fire was out and everybody had been accounted for. The house was gutted, entailing a loss of \$300,000. Ten families were made homeless.

McCoy Defeated Maher.

New York, Jan. 2.—"Kid" McCoy again placed himself in the championship class by defeating Peter Maher in a brisk, well fought battle of five rounds before the Coney Island Athletic club Monday afternoon. The fight was scheduled to last 25 rounds, and the purse was to have been \$20,000, but the attendance was not as large as had been expected, and before the fight was begun the principals agreed that the winner should receive the gross receipts.

The Wolfsohn Case.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 2.—Attorney Oscar Bamberger, who represented the heirs in the Wolfsohn case when they sought to recover the \$10,000 life insurance from the New York Life Insurance Co., is in the city. He will not give up his case, though his clients have waived their claim to the \$10,000. He does not believe that the man who came from Chicago pretending to be the real Wolfsohn is so.

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